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6 March 1959 - New York Times clipping 4 March re: President for

study of radio spectrum

*See Journal
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The Congressional Record

Wednesday - 4 March 1959

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EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

657. A letter from the Under Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting a report for the month of January relating to the cooperative program of the United States with Mexico for the control and the eradication of foot-and-mouth disease, pursuant to Public Law 8, 80th Congress; to the Committee on Agriculture.

658. A letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting two reports of the U.S. Secret Service covering restoration of balances withdrawn from appropriation and fund accounts under the control of the Treasury Department, pursuant to section 1(a)(2) of the act of July 25, 1956 (70 Stat. 648) (31 U.S.C. Supp. V, 701 (a)(2), 84th Cong.); to the Committee on Government Operations.

659. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a report on the review of the loan guarantee program as administered by the Civil Aeronautics Board from its inception September 7, 1957, to June 30, 1958; to the Committee on Government Operations.

660. A communication from the President of the United States, relative to recommending that the Congress establish a Special Commission on Telecommunications; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

661. A letter from the Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "A bill to establish a commission to study and report on the U.S. telecommunication resource with special attention to the radio spectrum"; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

662. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a proposed concession contract with DeSoto Hotel & Baths, Inc., for a period of 10 years from January 1, 1959, pursuant to the act of July 14, 1956 (70 Stat. 543); to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

663. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a proposed concession contract with Jack Tar of Arkansas, Inc., for a period of 10 years from January 1, 1959, pursuant to the act of July 14, 1956 (70 Stat. 543); to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

664. A letter from the Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting copies of orders suspending deportation as well as a list of the persons involved, pursuant to Public Law 863, 80th Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

665. A letter from the Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting copies of orders suspending deportation as well as a list of the persons involved, pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Wednesday - 4 March 1959

JLB

President for Study Of Radio Spectrum

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, March 3—

President Eisenhower asked Congress today to authorize his appointment of a five-member commission to make a thorough investigation of the Federal Government's role in the management of telecommunications.

In letters to Vice President Richard M. Nixon and House Speaker Sam Rayburn the President said the changing technology and changing needs in government and commercial areas posed problems in telecommunications that required examination. He said:

"The situation is becoming no less complicated by prospective developments in satellites and space vehicles, as well as in defense weapons systems." Possible reallocation of the entire radio spec-

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EISENHOWER URGES RADIO BAND STUDY

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trum between government and non-government users of present frequencies and with special emphasis on the maximum use of non-governmental areas is involved in the proposed study.

The proposal grows out of a report to Leo A. Hoegh, director of the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization, by an advisory committee on telecommunications. The group suggested the appointment of a three-member board for further study into the problem of the crowded spectrum and the government's roll in the overall administrative management in the field.

The House of Representatives last week voted \$150,000 for a study of the spectrum allocation by a subcommittee of its Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

The report of the advisory committee to Mr. Hoegh has not been made public. The defense mobilizer said today there was no certainty that it would be released. The President referred to this report in his letter to the Vice President and the Speaker saying that time did not permit the group to investigate either the Government's role or such problems as radio frequency usage.

Field of Study

In explanation of the President's letter today, Mr. Hoegh said that the proposed five-

member commission would investigate and report to the President within a year on these things:

"1—The role of the Federal Government in the management of United States telecommunication resources.

"2—The Administrative organization for discharging the Government's responsibilities, with particular reference to the division of responsibility under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, with a view to determining what changes, if any, should be made in the existing administrative organizations or statutes to improve the management of that resource.

"3—The existing methods and procedures for allocating radio frequencies and bands of radio frequencies as between Federal Government and non-government users, with a view to determining what changes should be made, if any, to ensure insofar as practicable, that allocated frequencies may be utilized to the maximum degree in the national interest, and to facilitate planning to take advantage of technological change in achieving maximum return from the use of the radio spectrum.

"4—The existing table of radio frequency allocations with respect to the apportionment of the various parts of the radio frequency spectrum as between Government and non-government users, with a view to determining whether the current division of the spectrum serves the national interest to an appropriate degree and whether any frequency space [and if so, how much of such space] may, in the public interest, be re-allocated to other users."